

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the review of the application.

Claims 1-27, 32 remain in this application. Claims 1, 7-8, 10, 16, 17, 19, 25, 26, 32 have been amended. Claims 28-31 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 33-35 have been added.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Camilleri, U.S. Patent 4,662,808.

Regarding Claim 1, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri discloses a method for attaching a fastener to a wall board (Fig. 6-7), the fastener including a drivable anchor (20 in Fig. 1) and a pin (14 in Fig. 1), the method comprising: Driving the anchor into the wallboard (Fig. 7); and Inserting the pin into a channel of the anchor (Fig. 6), thereby causing a pivotable section of the anchor to pivot (Fig. 7) and come into contact an intersurface of the wallboard.”

Claim 1 as amended now recites “driving the anchor into the wallboard without a need for pre-drilling the wallboard, the anchor having a pivotable section and a wallboard support section, and wherein the pivotable section is supported by the wallboard support section while driving the anchor into the wallboard” (see Specification page 9, paragraph 31, and also Fig. 2A-C).

Camilleri ‘808 teaches the step of drilling a hole in a wall (see Col 4, line 57) and also inserting the socket into a pre-drilled hole in a wall (see Col. 1, lines 55-56, and Col. 2, line 9). In addition, Camilleri ‘808 does not disclose nor suggest “a pivotable section supported by a wallboard section while driving the anchor into the wallboard” as recited in claim 1, since with the Camilleri socket (anchor) there is no need to have a well-supported pivotable section when one is inserting the Camilleri socket into a pre-drilled hole in a wall. Hence, Claim 1 is allowable over Camilleri ‘808.

Regarding Claim 7, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri makes known an external cross-sectional profile of the anchor that is elongated (76-72 in Fig. 5).” Applicant is unable to understand Examiner’s grounds for rejection of Claim 7 as ‘76’ appears to be the screw head and ‘72’ is the screw point of the Camilleri drive pin 14, while Applicants’ Claim 7 is directed at a feature of the anchor 100 and not the pin 180.

Claim 7 as amended now recites “an external cross-sectional profile of the anchor is elongated so as to provide a larger load-bearing surface for the wallboard, the cross-sectional profile being perpendicular to a driving axis of the anchor” (for example, a cross-sectional profile taken along line A-A of marked up drawing Figure 1A used for discussion purposes only). Support for this novel feature is clearly described on page 10, paragraph 33, which states “as shown in Figures 1B and 1C, the cross-sectional external profile of wallboard support section 140 is elongated so as to advantageously provide a wider support area in wallboard 190, thereby spreading the compression forces exerted by an object to be support of the fastening system of the present invention.”

In contrast, Camilleri ‘808 teaches a round external cross-sectional profile as illustrated by circular rings 64, as shown in Figure 4 which is a view in section taken along the line 4-4 of Figure 2 of Camilleri. Hence Claim 7 is also allowable over Camilleri for this reason.

Regarding Claim 8, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri illustrates an internal cross-sectional profile of the anchor that is elongated (62-56 in Fig. 2).” On examination of Figure 8 of Camilleri, opposed edges 56, 57 appear to be parts of fingers 22, 24 and hence are not part of the passage 21 of the socket 12 (see also Col. 3, lines 31-40). Applicants have also reviewed Figure 2 of Camilleri and it appears that the primary purpose of longitudinally extending ribs 62 is grip the shank of the drive pin 14 as shown in Figure 6 (Col. 3, lines 61).

Amended Claim 8 now recites “an internal cross-sectional profile of the channel is elongated so as to accommodate a range of pin sizes and types, the cross-sectional profile being perpendicular to a driving axis of the anchor.” Support for this feature can be found on page 10, paragraph 34 which states “Figure 1C also shows another advantageous feature of anchor 100 in which the cross-sectional profile of channel 130 may be elongated, e.g., substantially oval or rectangular. Such a channel profile … can accommodate an extended range of suitable profiles and sizes for the body of pin 180, including square or rectangular pins and a wider range of

screw diameters.”

In contrast, Camilleri ‘808 teaches “the circumscribed diameter defined by the ribs 62 is slightly less than the diameter of the shank of the drive pin 14” (emphasis added) (see Col. 3, lines 61-63). Hence, the ‘gripping diameter’ formed by the Camilleri ribs is essentially round in shape, and Claim 8 is also allowable over Camilleri for that reason.

Regarding Claim 10, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri discloses a fastener for use with a wall board (Fig. 1, 6-7), comprising: A drivable anchor (20 in Fig. 1) having at least one pivotable section (56 in Fig. 2); and A pin configured to be inserted into a channel of the anchor so that the insertion of the pin causes the pivotable section of the anchor to pivot and come into contact an interior surface of the wallboard (Fig. 7).” Claim 10 is allowable over Camilleri for the same reasons discussed above for Claim 1.

Regarding Claim 16, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri reveals an external cross-sectional profile of the anchor that is elongated (76-72 in Fig. 5).” Claim 16 is allowable over Camilleri for at least the same reasons discussed above for Claim 7.

Regarding Claim 17, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri illustrates an internal cross-sectional profile of the channel that is elongated (62-56 in Fig. 2).” Claim 17 is allowable over Camilleri for at least the same reasons discussed above for Claim 8.

Regarding Claim 19, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri reveals a drivable anchor (20 in Fig. 1) comprising of at least one pivotable section (56 in Fig. 2), the pivotable section configured so that an insertion of the pin into a channel of the anchor causes the pivotable section of the anchor to pivot and come into contact an interior surface of the wallboard (Fig. 7)” Claim 19 is allowable over Camilleri for the same reasons discussed above for Claim 1.

Regarding Claim 25, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri reveals an external cross-sectional profile of the anchor that is elongated (76-72 in Fig. 5).” Claim 25 is allowable over Camilleri for at least the same reasons discussed above for Claim 7.

Regarding Claim 26, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri illustrates an internal cross-sectional profile of the channel that is elongated (62-56 in Fig. 2).” Claim 26 is allowable over Camilleri for at least the same reasons discussed above for Claim 8.

Regarding Claim 32, the Examiner has stated that “Camilleri reveals an anchor having at least one pivotable section (58 in Fig. 6), the pivotable section configured so that a rack and pinion action between the pin and the anchor causes the pivotable section to pivot (58 in Fig. 7) and come into contact with an interior surface of the wallboard (Fig. 7) as the pin is inserted into the channel of the anchor (76 in Fig. 7).”

Claim 32 has been amended and now recites “the pivotable section configured so that a geared rack and pinion action between the pin and the anchor causes the pivotable section to pivot and come into contact an interior surface of the wallboard as the pin is inserted into a channel of the anchor” (emphasis added) (see Figures 6A -6C, paragraph 45 on page 13, and paragraph 46 on page 14). Camilleri ‘808 does not teach nor suggest a geared rack and pinion action and hence Claim 32 is allowable over Camilleri.

New Claims 33, 34, 35 all recite “wherein the wallboard support section has a recess for supporting the pivotable section” (emphasis added). Support for the ‘recess’ of amended claims 33, 34, 35 can be found in paragraph 31 of the specification, beginning at the bottom of page 9 to the top of page 10, stating “In addition, as shown in Figure 2C, a portion of pivotable section 220 is initially inside and supported by channel 230 of wallboard support section section 140, thereby providing additional anchor rigidity, strength and stability while driving anchor 100 into wallboard 190.” Camilleri ‘808 does not teach nor suggest such a recessed support feature and hence Claims 33, 34, 35 are all allowable over Camilleri.

In sum, base claims 1, 10, 19, 32 have been amended and are now believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 7, 8, 16, 17, 25, 26 have been amended and are now believed to be allowable. Dependent claims 2-6, 9, 11-15, 18, 20-24, 27 which depend therefrom are also believed to be allowable as being dependent from their respective patentable parent claims 1, 10,

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19 for at least the same reasons. New claims 33-35 have been added and are also believed to be allowable. Claims 28-31 have been cancelled without prejudice.

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. The commissioner is authorized to charge any fees that may be due to our Deposit Account No. 50-2766 (Order No. BR0401). Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at telephone number 925-570-8198.

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